More Ollie, by Golly

Post 4/10/92

ABC Entertainment announced yesterday that Academy Award-winning film director Oliver ("Platoon") Stone will be co-executive producer of a six-hour "event series" called "Wild Palms," scheduled to air on the network next season, perhaps as early as the fall . . .

The series is designed to be broadcast on a weekly basis, rather than in the traditional consecutive-night miniseries format. It's based on what the network calls "an unusual comic strip that has been running for two years in Details magazine and was created by screenwriter-novelist Bruce Wagner ["Scenes From the Class Struggle in Beverly Hills"], who will write it and co-executive produce it with Stone" . . .

Details has been described as a "very hip, urban magazine" that is fashionable in New York these days . . .

ABC says " 'Wild Palms' defies easy description but its central character, Harry Wyckoff, is a television executive seduced by success and by the mind-bending possibilities of a new technology called 'Virtual Reality,' which frees participants from time-and-place constraints. It is an almost futuristic journey for Wyckoff to a bizarre, at times abstract, world where familial relationships, corporate intrigue—and murder—all collide" . . .

Bob Iger, ABC Entertainment president, said, "The material is unlike anything I've seen or read before for television, a departure sufficient to attract one of the premiere filmmakers of our time to work in our medium for the first time, and a perfect vehicle for our 'event series' concept" . . .

We suspect that Bob and Ollie both might like to lie down for a while . . .

(In yesterday's announcement, by the way, there was not a single reference to "JFK," Stone's controversial recent movie that tried to implicate the U.S. power structure in the assassination of John F. Kennedy) . . .